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News Release

Durham Police Department

For Immediate Release: June 25, 2013

Three Men Charged with Jewelry Store Robbery

Durham police investigators have charged three men in connection with a kidnapping and the armed robbery of Jared Galleria of Jewelry at 6813 Fayetteville Road late Monday.

According to investigators, a store employee was followed from the store, kidnapped by two males armed with guns and forced to return to the store around 11 p.m. Monday. A third suspect followed them back to the store. The employee was forced to unlock the business and the suspects took cash and a large amount of jewelry. The suspects also robbed the victim and took her vehicle.

Shortly after the suspects fled from the scene officers attempted to stop the two vehicles but the drivers refused to stop. Officers chased one vehicle on Meridian Parkway, where the vehicle crashed into a concrete barrier. The driver, identified as Denzel Timothy Rasheem Shivers, 19, of Fuquay-Varina, was extricated from the vehicle and taken to the hospital for treatment of injuries that do not appear to be life-threatening.

Officers chased the second vehicle to Kit Creek Road in Cary, where the driver stopped the vehicle and the occupants fled on foot. They are not in custody at this time but charges have been filed against Vendai Larpist Irick, 22, of Fuquay-Varina and Rodney Jerrold Devin Byrd, 20, of Cary.

Shivers, Byrd and Irick have all been charged with second-degree kidnapping, two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon, larceny of motor vehicle, possession of a stolen motor vehicle, three counts of felony conspiracy and felony fleeing to elude arrest.

Investigators recovered the stolen jewelry from the vehicle that wrecked on Kit Creek Road.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Irick or Byrd is asked to call Investigator Guardino at (919) 560-4583, ext. 29364 or CrimeStoppers at (919) 683-1200. CrimeStoppers pays cash rewards for information leading to arrests in felony cases and callers never have to identify themselves.